

direct interest to assist the Government to diminish the facilities for obstruction. Parne concluded by moving the following amendment: "I humbly to represent to her Majesty that the remedial portion of last session's Irish legislation tended to diminish crime, whereas the repressive measures had done much to alienate the sympathy and respect of her Majesty's Irish subjects for the law, and that the administration of the Criminals Act, as well as much of the general action of the Executive, had been harsh and partial."

The Solicitor-General for Ireland replied on behalf of the Government that Parne's remarks were not relevant to the amendment; that his charges were trivial, while he admitted the beneficial results of remedial legislation.

The debate was then adjourned.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will shortly enter the Cabinet.

The sculling race between Wallace Ross of America and George Buear of England, for the championship of England, the challenge cup, and a stake of £400, took place over the Thames course from Putney to Mortlake, and Ross won by two lengths. The time made by Ross was 25 minutes and 10 seconds.

PARIS, February 13th.

In the Deputies the Under Secretary for the colonies stated that the actual expenses of the Indo-Chinese account do not exceed 70,000,000 francs. Troops had been reduced to 10,000 men. After debate President Tirard called on the Chamber for a credit of 15,000,000 francs, 20,000 less than originally asked. The credit was adopted.

BUCHAREST, February 13th.

The second ballot for members of the Rumanian Chamber of Deputies resulted in the election of twelve Government candidates and five members of the Opposition.

ROME, February 13th.

Sgr. Coppino, Minister of Public Instruction, and Sgr. Saraceno, Minister of Public Works, have resigned. The Tribune states that the War Department has offered provisions and accoutrements to be held in readiness, in full supply, as if the army were to be mobilized.

NEW YORK, February 14th.

The Herald's London cable special says that Lowell has challenged Albert, winner of the six-day match, for \$2500 a side, the match to take place either in London or New York. A twenty-four-hour walking-match for the world's championship for \$5000 is to come off on Friday between Joe Scott, the Australian, and Jack Hildard. They will walk twelve hours a day.

LONDON, February 14th.

The Chronicle's Rome correspondent says: The Pope, in an audience, in reply to statements regarding the situation in Ireland, said that he hoped to obtain concessions from England on the Irish question, provided the Irish adopted a legal, peaceful attitude.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, February 14th.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has accepted a seat in the Cabinet as President of the Board of Trade.

February 15th.

The New Hebrides Commission consists of two British and two French naval officers, who are to be selected from the Pacific squadron. It will be presided over, in alternate months, by the officers commanding the English or French squadron, as the case may be. Military action is to be avoided unless it is imperative, and the landing force is not to remain after the dispute has been settled. The Commission will not interfere in land disputes.

The statement that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is to succeed Lord Stanley of Preston as President of the Board of Trade is confirmed.

The Mayor of Cork has been sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment for committing an assault on a policeman who was endeavouring to stop a Nationalist demonstration.

In the House of Commons last night, during the debate (resumed) on the Criminals Act, Sir George Trevelyan declared that the policy of the Government was now pursuing in their dealings with Ireland, so far from pacifying people, would only serve still more to alienate their sympathies and decrease their respect for the law. The debate was again adjourned.

Replying to a question in the Commons regarding the accuracy of the statement in the *New Free Press*, Sir J. Fergusson said England had not entered into any engagement pledging herself to any action on the part of N. Y. except such as was already known to the public. On the further question being put as to whether it was contemplated making any arrangement of that nature with Italy, Sir J. Fergusson professed his inability to give a reply.

Mr. Payne and Father Stevens have been sentenced to three months' imprisonment. Both have lodged appeals.

BUCHAREST, February 22nd.

The Russians still continue concentrating men on the Galician frontier, and in a month from now they will have a hundred thousand more troops in position.

ROME, February 22nd.

The Italian papers are busy discussing the probable meaning of the concentration of a large French force on the Italian frontier.

CAIRO, February 22nd.

Reinforcements are reaching Ras Alula at Asmara.

LONDON, February 23rd.

The Powers have signified their desire to receive further explanations from Russia as to her intentions before proceeding to declare against Prince Ferdinand's rule in Bulgaria.

In the House of Commons last night, Sir James Fergusson stated that England's relations with Italy were entirely free from conditions, and the relations between France and England were excellent.

Mr. Gladstone was said to be considering Mr. Labouchere's amendment in making inquiry as to the situation, and that he approved of the answer given by Sir James Fergusson.

Mr. Labouchere's amendment to the Address was then withdrawn and the Address was voted.

BERLIN, February 23rd.

The semi-official North German Gazette says that as Germany has promised to support the proposal of Russia regarding Bulgaria, the Pope will be bound to acquiesce in the arrangement suggested.

CAIRO, February 23rd.

Recent movements of the Italian Force seem to indicate the intention of Italy to occupy the whole basin of Motal.

ROME, February 23rd.

Count Robilant has been accredited as Italian Ambassador in London, in the place of Count Corti, deceased.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 23rd.

The official St. Petersburg Messenger, in a leading article today, says that the presence and action of Prince Ferdinand at Sofia constitute a violation of the Treaty of Berlin, that Russia seeks to bring the Powers first to declare that the Treaty must not be violated; and that she will then endeavour to induce the Sultan, as Sovereign Ruler, to inform the Bulgarians that Prince Ferdinand is not a legally-appointed ruler, but only a robber and usurper of power. Russia, it is further asserted, emphatically rejects the idea of forcibly restoring a legal status to the country.

LONDON, February 24th.

In the House of Lords last night, during the debate on the Bulgarian question, Lord Salisbury said that the Powers to embark in war on

account of Bulgaria would be a disgrace to Europe. His Lordship also declared he held of any Conference to discuss the question.

In the House of Commons Sir John Gorst, in replying to a question, said that the Government was still deliberating on the advisability of extending the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act to India.

In replying to a further question, Sir J. Stanhope said that the new magazine rifle had been approved by military experts, and that it had now been issued for final trial before ordering it to be supplied to the Army.

Sir James Fergusson, on being asked a question regarding the relations between Nubar Pasha and Sir Evelyn Baring, said that there had been lately a certain difference of opinion between the Minister and the British Plenipotentiary, regarding certain details in the Government, but not regarding British interference generally in Egyptian affairs, which was limited as far as possible.

Sir Charles Bernard has left England to assume the duties of Commissioner of Mysore.

Mr. Chamberlain has been offered the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, and will probably be made a Baronet.

CHRISTIAN AND HEATHEN.

England's message to the heathen, says an American contemporary, from Australia to Calcutta from Hongkong to the Falkland Islands, from Mauritius to Ceylon, the nation whose sovereign writes herself "Defender of the Faith" has carried and taught the use of the deadliest poison invented by humanity. Nor is there in the prosecution of this infernal traffic the faintest pretence of consideration for the destined victims. The drink vend among the heathen is the most abominable, the fiercest, the deadliest stuff distilled. When Mauritius became a sugar colony the rum made there was unfit for exportation to England, so it was sent to Madagascar; and when the frightful results in crime and disease led the Malagasy King to prohibit the importation, American, German, and British merchants in Mauritius complained to their respective Governments, and the results were that free rum was forced upon the island; just in the same way that opium was forced upon China, at the point of the British bayonet. Such British racial policy, which was so loudly denounced by the French many years ago, is now being followed by France in the Pacific, by Germany wherever she has the opportunity, and by all other nations who pretend at first to lift up their hands in holy horror. In the United States matters are not perhaps quite so bad, but for many years were infinitely worse, when her black-leg vagabonds, calling themselves "merchants," not only poisoned the Indians of the northwest territories with the very worst kind of rum, averaging five cents a gallon, but absolutely introduced the small-pox amongst them in order to decimate the race and thus possess themselves of their land, or to buy them at prices less than five thousand per cent of their market value. With less effrontery, but equal absence of principle, British and German liquor has been pushed through the valley of the Congo, and missionaries have been driven to confess that against such a foe they could make no headway. From time to time enquiries are made as to the rapid decay of the native races brought into contact with the white man, and assuredly the chief cause of such decline is the European drink traffic. It has poisoned the sources of life in almost every savage habitat. It has nullified every honest effort to spread Christianity. It has given the lie to the statements of the most honest travellers and explorers. It has enervated every virtuous and demoralising influence already in existence. It has caused the more intelligent heathen to reject the proffered religion of a people who, while praising God with their mouths, worship the devil with their hands and with their hearts. The awful contrast between Christian profession and practice was never so nakedly thrown in high relief as in this abominable matter. It is an enormous stain on the pages of American and European progress, and conveys to the clear-sighted as ominous a threat as the luminous message that disordered Belsazzar's feast with its fiery aspect.

SOUTH FORMOSA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

(Continued.)

If matters go on as they are, much hardship and heartburning must be endured, and, after all, the Government be none the better for the dissatisfaction created. At present, matters appear to be in statu quo, though rumour has it that some movement is taking place at Peking, and it may be, before long, the wrongs may at least be enquired into, if not redressed.

The next departure from fixed agreement more directly involves His Excellency the Governor, and relates to an attempt to establish a government monopoly in camphor. No doubt it will be remembered, or at least found recorded in contemporary files, that about 1867 or 1868 an agreement as to the purchase and export of camphor by foreigners from Formosa was come to between the Consul and Taotai, the latter being at that time the chief authority in the island. By this agreement monopolies were abolished, and foreigners permitted to trade freely in camphor, it being understood that should they venture into savage districts they did so at their own risk, otherwise the Chinese authorities gave full permission for the trade, and promised to afford all facilities. Thereupon foreigners did for some time export the drug; though of late years it has been chiefly exported from Tamsui. This abolition of monopoly, and perfect freedom of trade, together with the rules governing the camphor-commerce, was officially ratified in a circular despatch sent by the Taung-tai Yamen at Peking to every Legation, and, until a year and a half ago, no question was raised as to the point thus definitely and categorically settled. About this time, however, a foreigner here having duly obtained the special transit pass provided by the above-said agreement, was induced to buy camphor for shipment from Tai-wan too. Not long after he had begun operations, a stir was made by the high authorities who asserted the establishment of a monopoly and virtual prohibition of foreign intervention. H.E. Liu Ming-chuan, ignoring the agreement, memorialized the Throne asserting that great profits were to be made, quoting exaggerated comparisons of the market-price in Hongkong with the cost of shipment from this. The foreigner interested up to the time of interference had no hint that pre-existing conditions were to be questioned, much less ignored, and when he invested his money (no little sum), he could have no suspicion of what was to happen. A cargo he had purchased was peremptorily seized, and shipped off by the officials to Tamsui for sale on Government account. As a fact, the vessels carrying it never reached their destination, being wrecked in *Formosa*. Notwithstanding protests, claims, and the other formalities incidental to such a condition of affairs, he has, up to date, had no redress either for the injuries done him by confiscation of his goods, or anything else. Much local diplomatic negotiation went on, but with little or no avail, beyond getting a sort of permission to try again; transit passes had been refused, notwithstanding that the forms used were those originally drawn up under the rules alluded to. Once more, how-

ever, a modified permit was reluctantly granted, and again he tried to scoop himself by bringing down another lot. This was seized up country as soon as delivered, and the foreigner's employés imprisoned and otherwise punished. The Taotai was repeatedly appealed to, always with the same result. "The high issued orders for its release, as also that of the servants, but with no avail; a would have more issue instructions to the district officials." After a while, but not a good start on its way to the Hongkong market, the stuff was let go, but as may be expected, only to meet loss on a lowered market. Again the foreigner, not a "transit pass" making another attempt, again his drug been seized, after the same repeated protests and assurances on the part of the Taotai as to his efforts in getting it released. This was at last effected; again, however, only after government cargo had been got away. The packing had scarcely begun before it was once more seized, and up to list advice, there the matter stands. Of course the whole affair has been referred to Peking, and considering the nationality of the victim it is not unlikely, sooner or later, may get satisfaction, in so far as this can be given for what must inflict on him certain losses, necessarily more or less irreparable. As showing the position taken up by the local officials in matters of ordinary routine the following cases may be mentioned. The complaint of a foreign firm began to show by his misdeeds that he was to be no further trusted. He owed about \$40,000. There is every reason to believe that he himself was by no means impecunious, and, at any rate, his debt was fully "secured." On his employer's demanding explanations he absconded, but in spite of the efforts of official friends, foreigners tried to get to hand him into custody. He was taken to the prison, and there he remained, eventually, a victim of his own intrigues. The securities being pressed, on their petition the above facts were established. The Taotai stated that he was doing all he could to get justice done, but that "nothing having been done by the officials, he would issue fresh orders."

This went on with waning monotony. The Governor, when appealed to, it must be said, has acted most energetically. He summoned the Magistrate to Tamsui, on his being charged by a security, and a thin cup of tea, of having received a bribe, and H.E. on investigation, unpersuaded him, also taking away his button. The Consul for the nationality interested has taken the matter up warmly. The Governor has undoubtedly been doing, and is doing all he can, but his official intervention is not actually result in outlying the matter; and as far as local powers go, nothing has yet been done, or apparently attempted. Here is a man with assets sufficiently large to enable him to pay enormous bribes; he does not deny his indebtedness, the securities do not deny them; he pleads laches on the part of the authorities in enabling the debtor to evade payment of at least the greater part of his debt, and not a step is taken either to get payment from the latter, or make the securities refund. No excuse is given for disobeying the Governor's peremptory orders, no plea is set up in bar of claim, but simply saying it is done. The man is openly and defiantly living at a village quite close to Tamsui, but no attempt is made to arrest him. Take another case. Some foreigners buy a bit of land, pay over half the purchase money, and receive the title deeds. The vendor asserts that because he did not pay \$150 to the Senior Literatus of the district the latter enlisted yamen aid, getting the magistrate—the one who has since—been—unseated—to refuse to stamp the title-deeds. The first excuse given was that they had never been sealed by the local yamen; when this failed, *Yung-shui* was invoked, "a rising of the people feared," &c., &c.

On an official visit to the land in question neither the Magistrate nor the Taung-shan Wei-yuen were able to produce more than one old woman, whose objection was that a little bit owned by her might be affected by foreign possession, and she lose 3,000 cash per annum. The purchasers immediately offered to make this good, and she said nothing more. After waiting three-quarters of an hour the officials had to retire, the promised demonstration failing entirely. It is now authoritatively given out, through the vendor, that for \$500 black silk, difficulties can be removed, but not a step will an official move in either investigating the wrong, or giving constant reasons for not stamping the title-deeds. The situation of the ground in question and the peculiar circumstances surrounding its acquisition so combine in refusing all arguments put forward hitherto, that in effect, the only bar to further progress is the bare refusal of the authorities to interest themselves in the matter, further than under the circumstances the vendor describes.

Another foreigner has had a house *bona fide* transferred to him, in discharge of a debt. The title-deeds free of prior lien are sent to the Magistrate to be stamped. He does not refuse, but the foreigner gets nothing. The Taotai states that the foreigner is clearly the proprietor of the house, and has repeatedly asked the Magistrate to stamp the deeds, but he has not done so, and he (the Taotai) has issued fresh orders to him to "set forthwith." As soon as some one who said the vendor was indebted to him heard of the sale, he took forcible entry and the foreigner can neither get the Magistrate to evict the trespasser, or stamp his title deeds. The Taotai here again contents himself with asserting the foreigner's perfect right to entry, and while fully recognizing the unobjectionable instructions given to the Magistrate, simply asseverates his intention to issue orders. Nothing is done, and so the matter jogs along.

But why multiply examples? Suffice it to know that to such a pass have matters reached that it is hopeless to look for the very slightest assistance from the native authorities, on even the most trivial occasions; either direct refusal, or passive resistance is all that can be anticipated. Why this should be, seems difficult to understand. We have every reason to believe that if H.E. the Governor were within practical reach of observation, another state of affairs might obtain. From what is known of his disposition as shown in Tamsui, he could expect a very different treatment, although in no camphor case, he has taken a decided stand. There, however, can be no doubt that he was kept in the dark, if not actually misled as to facts which the most superficial search of the Taotai's archives would have shown at once, and had the officials here been truthful, even if not friendly, they were bound to have apprised their chief of them. Indeed a yamen attaché who professes to hold an influential position, openly boasted that H.E. was purposely kept in the dark, and that if he chose to get himself in "hot water," it was his business of the people here to help him. (H.E.) This individual's general remarks and assertions (not entirely uncorroborated) have certainly given the impression that H.E. Liu has no very friendly subordinates in this part of the island, and certainly, if they were intentionally working to get him into the "hot water" spoken of, it is not easy to discover any more effectual way than that adopted. The Governor has, as far as is known, always shown a ready desire to inquire, and, as in the case of the camphor case, has displayed considerable energy. It is a great misfortune, he is unable either to come south occasionally, or, at least, have avowed adherents administering for him. Again, no doubt, the exclusive or apparently exclusive

limitation of improvements to the North does much to intensify troubles in southern districts. The people are not in that contented frame of mind which would render them zealous contributors to funds they rightly or wrongly believe are to be spent in benefiting others, and, from what is said, the local officials are not energetic in smoothing over misapprehensions. What is before the place no one can say; the prospects are not bright; it is reported that H.E. has insisted on a more equitable levy of *likin* this year, and certainly, so far the shipments in foreign vessels, from Tai-wan-fo at least, would seem to point to less junk competition.

On the other hand two very influential firms have withdrawn, and this in itself, besides being a sign of decadence, is a heavy blow to the port. As the above is merely an attempt to give a plain statement of matters as they really stand, and show the most urgent causes of trouble, each one may draw his own conclusions from what has been said; while it ought to be remembered that precedents established here are good as such, and may be used with great force elsewhere; and although the obscurity of the place may, for the time, mask the operations, once the wedge has been inserted there will be less trouble in driving it home. *Verba sap.* That South Formosa is capable of great things, if properly developed, cannot be doubted, comparatively little would go far towards this, and it can only be hoped that eventually H.E. may be induced to bestow more attention on its needs; when, no doubt, his enlightened energy, and—as compatriots in the North say—general good-fellowship and disposition, may afford us better hope for future prosperity than present conditions warrant.

Feb. 27th, 1888.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

13th March, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION.	Latitude	Longitude	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	Weather
Tsukuba	35° 45'	139° 51'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Tokyo	35° 41'	139° 47'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Nagasaki	32° 42'	128° 10'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Amoy	23° 42'	118° 10'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Shanghai	31° 10'	121° 28'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Hankow	35° 55'	114° 15'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Peking	39° 55'	116° 25'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Harbin	45° 45'	126° 55'	30.0	55.0	N	b

14th March, 1888.—At 10 a.m.

STATION.	Latitude	Longitude	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	Weather
Tsukuba	35° 45'	139° 51'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Tokyo	35° 41'	139° 47'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Nagasaki	32° 42'	128° 10'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Amoy	23° 42'	118° 10'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Shanghai	31° 10'	121° 28'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Hankow	35° 55'	114° 15'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Peking	39° 55'	116° 25'	30.0	55.0	N	b
Harbin	45° 45'	126° 55'	30.0	55.0	N	b

The barometer has risen slightly in the north and gradually in the south-east winds are moderate. Cloudy, warm and damp weather prevails.

Thermometer reduced to level of the sea in inches, tenths and hundredths. Temperature in the shade in degrees Fahrenheit. Humidity in percentage of saturation. Direction and force of wind in degrees and miles per hour. Direction and force of the wind according to Beaufort's scale. State of the weather, as observed by the observer. Direction and force of the wind according to Beaufort's scale. State of the weather, as observed by the observer.

Hongkong Observatory, 14th March, 1888.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

FROM MESSRS. FAIRBANKS & CO.'S REGISTER.

Thermometer	Barometer	Thermometer	Barometer
Maximum—F.H.	30.0	Maximum—F.H.	30.0
Minimum—F.H.	29.0	Minimum—F.H.	29.0
Mean—F.H.	29.5	Mean—F.H.	29.5
Maximum—C.H.	30.0	Maximum—C.H.	30.0
Minimum—C.H.	29.0	Minimum—C.H.	29.0
Mean—C.H.	29.5	Mean—C.H.	29.5
Maximum—W.H.	30.0	Maximum—W.H.	30.0
Minimum—W.H.	29.0	Minimum—W.H.	29.0
Mean—W.H.	29.5	Mean—W.H.	29.5
Maximum—D.H.	30.0	Maximum—D.H.	30.0
Minimum—D.H.	29.0	Minimum—D.H.	29.0
Mean—D.H.	29.5	Mean—D.H.	29.5

The maximum of the day was 30.0, and the minimum 29.0.

The barometer was 30.0 at 10 a.m. and 29.0 at 10 p.m.

The wind was N. by E. at 10 a.m. and N. by E. at 10 p.m.

The weather was cloudy and damp.

The humidity was 80 per cent.

The direction of the wind was N. by E.

The force of the wind was 10 miles per hour.

The state of the weather was cloudy and damp.

The direction of the wind was N. by E.

The force of the wind was 10 miles per hour.

The state of the weather was cloudy and damp.

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To-day's Advertisements.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

"BELGIC" will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 3rd April, at THREE P.M.

Connections will be made at Yokohama with Steamers going to Japan, Korea, and the Philippines.

All PASSENGER PACKAGES should be marked to address in full, and be sent to the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—To San Francisco.....\$200.00

To San Francisco and return.....350.00

To Liverpool.....330.00

To London.....330.00

To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (at a discount of 10 per cent.) will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to *Taiwan* fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices, to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San

Migrations.
NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED THEIR ANNUAL SUPPLY

LAWN GRASS SEED

and
SWEET CORN,

for immediate sowing.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Opening, 2nd March, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Opening, Wednesday, March 14, 1888.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

LONDON, March 12th.
The funeral of the late Emperor of Germany will take place on Tuesday next.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS ON THE

SITUATION.

The Russian Press seeks to discover pending political difficulties consequent upon recent events in Germany and gives expression to its fears thereon.

(From Straits Times.)

SUAKIN.

The Derwishes attacked Suakin and after four hours' fighting were repulsed.

THE POPE.

LONDON, 5th March.
The Pope, in a speech at the College of Cardinals said that his position was unbearable.

OHITURARY.

Admiral Sir Cropper Key. The Duke of Rutland.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Patroclus* from Liverpool, left Singapore for Hongkong this morning, and is due on the 20th inst.

Santos Porto, a famous Portuguese traveller and adventurer, who died at Libhe, Africa, recently, was the first white man to cross the Dark Continent.

As will be seen from a notice in another column, the capture for Europe of the English mail steamer *Cypria* has been delayed until midnight. Passengers will kindly note.

The Subscription "Griffin" meeting, we would remind our readers, will be held at the Hongkong Hotel, tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. A large attendance of those interested is earnestly requested.

We note from the *Independent* that Major Vaghiunas, of the Macao Police, has been appointed Deputy Registrar of that colony, under Mr. A. Pacheco, who lately assumed the duties of Registrar General.

Arrivals have been signed for a match for £500 aside and the Sculling Championship of the World between Peter Kemp, of Hawkesbury, New South Wales, and Edward Hanlan, of Toronto, Canada. The race will take place on the Parramatta River on the 5th of May next.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* reports that the poppy crop commenced on the 26th ulto. on the grounds, where its culture has been undertaken by Mr. Frederick. The quality of the juice extracted from the plant is said to be excellent, and the planter augurs well for the result of his experiments.A LETTER to the Paris *Figaro* says that the Neapolitans appear to have an unlimited capacity not only for macaroni, but also for eels, which form a favorite food during the fasts prescribed by the Church. No less than eight hundred miles of eels were sold last year within the boundaries of the city.

In a cricket match played between a combined team from New South Wales and Victoria and Shaw's eleven on the 3rd ulto. and following days, the Englishmen won by five wickets. On February 11th, 14th and 15th a match was played between United Australia v. Shaw and Vernon's teams, which the English players won by 126 runs, the scores being—Englishmen, 113 and 137; Australians, 42 and 82.

A widow aged 65 was to-day charged with smuggling 180 taels of opium. A sharp-eyed member of the excise department said that from information he received he was standing outside a house in Possession Street on the 13th inst. when prisoner came out with a basket on her arm, on searching which he found under some ground nuts and other "world's gear" a false bottom to the basket in which the infatuating drug was carefully stowed, packed in small tins. Before arresting the dame he followed her as far as the Harbour Office, and then detained her on the road to the Canton wharf. Mr. Woodhouse on hearing from the accused that "a man belonging to Annam had asked her to carry the basket," fined the delinquent \$500, or in default to go to goal for three months. Another smuggler, an ex-convict, was also found in unlawful possession of 90 taels of prepared opium, which was found in a sampan in the harbour near the Harbour Office, and was also fined \$500, or three months, goal being preferred in both cases.

THE telephone is getting every day more popularised in the Philippines. The city of Manila already possesses a network of telephonic wires, and it is now proposed to extend the communications to the suburbs.

THE conflagration which occurred at Hanol on the 26th ulto. is said to have caused considerable damage to life and property. The *Avenir du Tonkin* reports that 13 victims were found among the debris, of whom one was a Frenchman. The total loss of property is calculated at \$70,000 exclusive of the damages sustained by the Public Works department.

A SCULLING match between Peter Kemp of the Hawkesbury river and Thomas Clifford of Illawarra, for £200 aside and the Championship of the World, was rowed on the Parramatta river, near Sydney, on the 11th ulto. in the presence of twenty-five thousand spectators. Kemp, who started favorite at 3 to 1 on, led all the way and won easily by six lengths.

WE received some time ago a copy of *The Straits Directory for 1888*, the ninth annual publication of a very complete and exceedingly useful Directory for the Straits Settlements, Sarawak, Labuan, British North Borneo, Brunel, Siam, Deli, Johore, Pahang, and the protected native states of the Malay Peninsula. This work is published by the "Singapore and Straits Printing Office" at the comparatively low price of \$4, and apparently no pains have been spared to make it a generally useful and thoroughly reliable office companion.

MACAO papers report the apprehension by the harbour police of a band of thirteen pirates who had been committing all sorts of depredations in the neighbourhood of the colony. In their possession were found a large quantity of jewels valued at several thousands of dollars, arms and ammunition of all sorts, and a mandarin flag belonging to a Chinese Government vessel, riddled with bullets. It is said that the marauders in the course of their adventures by sea had boarded a Chinese war vessel, murdered her commander, and wounded several of the crew.

HAMILTON'S well known and popular Comedy Company arrived here last night from the Colonies by the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Whangpoo*, and will make their first appearance before a Hongkong audience at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on Saturday night. This Company, which includes amongst its members the favorite comedienne, Miss Maggie Ford, has for the past thirteen months been touring throughout the Australasian colonies with pronounced success, the "New South Wales, Victorian, and Queensland press being unanimous in praising alike the abilities of the artists and the refined character of the entertainment. As will be seen by the advertisement in another part of this issue Mr. Hamilton will open with a mixed programme, including the attractive comedietta "Ruth's Romance," an olio in which the versatility of the leading ladies and gentlemen will be displayed, and the ever-green farce of "The Good for Nothing." The specialty of the Company, however, is in modern light comedy, and we doubt not that a repertoire of novelties of this class, adequately staged and acted, will command the steady patronage of our theatre-going community. A full programme of Saturday's entertainment will appear to-morrow, and meanwhile seats may be booked at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Limited, where a plan of the Theatre is now on view.

In an article on "The Philosophy of Tight Lacing," the conclusions of the writer are summed up as follows:—If men, as a whole, cared for small waists for their own sakes, we should long ago have had developed a small-waisted race of women (and men too, for it would have been transmitted to both sexes) by selection, which ought to have rendered tight-lacing unnecessary in these latter days; but neither by this kind of sexual selection nor by the rejection of the habit of tight-lacing through numerous generations has there been the slightest apparent change in the natural shape of the body either in the circumference of the waist, or in the position of the internal organs. Every child which is born of a tight-lacing European race appears to be identical in physical conformation with the children born of women of other races who have never known corsets, while the healthy women of our own day who have not been individually subject to tight-lacing do not differ in form and physical proportions from the models of the ancient Greek sculptors. Thus it would seem that tight-lacing is in part prompted by our natural sense of proportion in the human figure, in part by a rivalry of the young, by the not-uncommon rivalry among women themselves. On the other hand, there does not seem to be any strong provocation to tight-lacing, as well-proportioned figures do not depend on the relative circumference of the waist, but on the relative length of the two divisions of the body, tight-lacing when this does exist in short persons serving rather to emphasize the defect than to correct it by throwing the point of division too low down; nor is there any evidence that men admire small waists as a sexual character; and as no permanent change in the figure has resulted after many generations of tight-lacing, it is probable that it is practised by only a very small section of womanhood, but that, unfortunately, the most intelligent and influential section.

NEWS BY THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The Pacific Mail S.S. Co.'s steamer *City of New York*, Capt. Robt. R. Searle, with the American mails of the 14th ulto., arrived in harbour this forenoon. We take the subjoined telegrams from our San Francisco exchanges:—GLASGOW, February 6th.
Watson, designer of the cutter *Thistle*, has completed the design of a cutter similar to the *Thistle*, but to be built of composite instead of steel. He has also finished the design for a steel yacht which will have a centre board.MADRID, February 6th.
In the Deputies to-day Romero censured the Government for military interference at Rio

Tinto and the resultant bloodshed. An exciting debate ensued, and the censure proposal was rejected. Upon hearing that Romero had virtually accepted the military officers of murder, General Cassola, Minister of War, hastened to the Chamber, and addressing Romero, said: "You have insulted the Spanish Army and are shielding yourself under parliamentary immunity." Romero replied: "I adhere to what I have said, both inside and outside of Parliament." Cassola responded: "You shall give me reparation for the insult."

The Rio Tinto riots resulted, in the death of twenty persons. Señor Castelar created a sensation in the Cortes to-day by declaring that when the monarchy implants democratic reforms all Republicans must serve it.

Señor Castelar made a long speech. In reviewing the European situation he censured the policy of the constant increase of armaments as the policy of conquest. The industrial nation of Spain, he said, ought to follow the policy of peace and progress, and to avoid conquest. He referred to the benefits to be derived from general disarmament. He defended the interests of Spain in Morocco, but declared that the time for a military conquest was passed. Referring to international questions, he advocated free trade as beneficial to the working classes. He applauded the liberal principles of the present Cabinet, pointing out the conquests of liberty and democracy in Spain, and declared that if the same principles were continued the monarchy might become the most remarkable of the modern times. The conclusion of his speech, Señor Castelar was enthusiastically applauded on all sides of the House.

DUBLIN, February 7th.
Archbishop MacEvilly, at Tuam Cathedral to-day declared that he had authority to deny the rumors that the Pope was opposed to the legitimate aspiration of the Irish people.VIENNA, February 7th.
The Central Committee of Sugar Refiners has petitioned the Government to refuse its consent to the London Convention, on the ground that the abolition of bounties would only favor the producers of cane sugar.NEW-YORK, February 7th.
Richard K. Fox was arrested this morning and taken to the Tombs Police Court, charged with violating the Penal Code by encouraging prize-fighting. Fox was granted a release until Tuesday on his own recognizance.LONDON, February 7th.
The Jockey Club directed Sir George Chetwynd to bring suit for libel against Lord Durham on account of the charges of the latter touching the riding of Sir George Chetwynd's horses in various races. After the suits have been concluded the club will refer the matter to arbitration.February 8th.
Gladstone was given a rousing welcome home to-night. Ten thousand men and women crowded the Strand and blocked the approaches to Charing Cross for miles. There were old hands, but 100,000 if the Liberal leaders had published the time the grand old man was expected. It was truly a spontaneous and popular reception. The democracy of the crowd recalled the contrast of the primrose-decked gathering of aristocrats that met "Dizzy" when he came home from the Berlin Congress just ten years ago. As Gladstone stepped from the railway carriage and lifted his hat in response to the cheers of the multitude, he looked the living image of the late Horatio Seymour. The physical resemblance is remarkable. Gladstone has grown fat while away. His face is bronzed and his eyes clear and sparkling with health. The drawn, weary appearance noticeable toward the end of last session has disappeared, chased away by the soft breezes of Florence. I stood close to Gladstone as he stepped on the platform and remarked "You are looking very well." "Yes," he said, "I feel well, very well."

Mrs. Gladstone was laden with gifts of flowers, and as they drove away the great station rang with cheers, which were caught up by the throng in the Strand and followed them out of sight. Mrs. Garfield and her son Jimmy were among the Americans in the crowd. The daughters of Lincoln took the last train to the carriage.

One hour before Harrington arrived at the same station. No one was there to grasp him by the hand and not one in the throng showed a sign of recognition. The Liberal Union leader got into a brougham and drove away without a single cheer.

Late trains to-night brought in nearly all the prominent Irish members, ready for the opening of Parliament to-morrow.

On the way from Dover, Gladstone's train stopped at Thornclyffe and the Liberal leader was presented with an address. In the course of his reply he said: "In neither Europe nor America could be seen such a painful spectacle as is observable in England—the specter of one nation holding down another by force. Russia would be ashamed to say of Finland what Englishmen were not ashamed to say of Ireland—that 3,000,000 people were afraid of 5,000,000."

A Sioux squaw at Colonel Cody's camp has given birth to a daughter to-day. This is the first Indian child ever born in England. The infant has been named Frances Victoria Alexandra, in honor of Mrs. Cleveland, Queen Victoria and the Princess of Wales.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 8th.
The Czar has declined to give his assent to a morganatic marriage between the Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolajewitch and the daughter of Count Ignatieff.ROME, February 8th.
The Pope has requested Cardinal Simoni to advise the Irish Bishops to preach to the people of Ireland respect for the laws and the maintenance of a calm, prudent line of conduct. The Pope has also announced his intention to send to Ireland a permanent apostolic legate.PARIS, February 8th.
Some time ago a woman was pushed off the bridge into the Seine and drowned. Arrests were made and the fact developed that the murder was committed for a wager of a cup of coffee. One man has been sentenced to penal servitude for twenty years and another has received a life sentence.

Prince Philip of Bourbon, son of the Duke of Aquila and nephew of the Emperor of Brazil, has been sentenced by default to fifteen months imprisonment and to pay 500 francs damages for a swindling jewelry transaction.

NEW-YORK, February 9th.
The Tribune's London cable says: "The *Sydney Herald* publishes a rumor that the Government will move to-morrow that the Irish members convicted under the Coercion Act be disqualified to sit in Parliament."DUBLIN, February 9th.
The landlords of Kingstown estates have granted all the reductions demanded in 1886 under the plan of campaign, and have agreed to re-let the evicted tenants, including the Mitchellstown shopkeepers, and forego all legal rights. They will also offer their property for sale.

Fourteen persons, including two members of the Municipal Council, have been arrested at Galway for disorderly conduct on the night of the arrest of Blunt. They were admitted to bail. Other arrests are expected. Great excitement prevails.

LONDON, February 9th.
As the Prince of Wales came out of the House of Commons with some friends the acrobats

were filling the streets with shouts of the extraordinary behavior of his Royal Highness at the theatre last night. There was a large audience of first-nighters at the Opera Comique to see Mrs. Bernhardt in the new and unwholesome piece, "Ariane," a dramatization of Mrs. Campbell Prætel's "Won in Wedlock." The Prince of Wales was in the royal box with a duke, an earl and three or four lords. In the orchestra stalls below were Justin McCarthy and his daughter, Lady Colin Campbell, Edmund Yates and other well-known names. The newspapers call it a brilliant first night socially as was ever seen in London.

The play started with a long conversation, intended to describe the miserable home in which the disreputable father, the drunken husband and the wretched wife are the chief figures. Suddenly, as the people were straining every ear to catch the words from Mrs. Bernhardt, there came from the royal box loud shouts of conversation. The actors paused and the audience hissed. A man in the dress circle shouted: "This is not a smoking concert!" The Prince turned his face to the house for a moment, as though surprised at the excitement shown, and then continued his conversation with a voice not moderated. Mrs. Bernhardt gave the cue to the actors by going on with her lines and paying no attention to the interruption. The aristocratic people in the audience tried to set the example by looking hard at the stage and endeavoring to appear deaf, but the people in the dress circles and the galleries cried "Hush" and almost drowned the voices of those on the stage. Mrs. Bernhardt, nervous with the worry of a first night, looked as though going into hysterics. It was a repetition of the scene last year, when the people of the orchestra stalls rose en masse against the talkative people in a box.

At last, when the Prince drew a chair toward the front of the box and paid strict attention to the play, quiet was restored. None of the morning paper critics mentioned the incident, but T. P. O'Connor dropped into the theatre for a moment after meeting Mr. Gladstone, and saw the whole thing. He pitches into the Prince in a good editorial in the *Star*.VIENNA, February 9th.
The *Wiener Tagblatt* says it has received information that Russia and France have about concluded a treaty similar to that between Austria and Germany.BERLIN, February 9th.
The Reichstag to-day passed the Military Loan bill without debate. Only three members of the Royal Democrats opposed the measure. In the course of a speech at the Brandenburg dining hall Prince William of Prussia, heir presumptive to the German crown, said: "I know that a section of the public, especially that section abroad, imputes to me carelessness and thoughtlessness for war for the sake of glory. God preserve me from such criminal giddiness. I repudiate all such accusations with horror. I am a soldier. All the Brandenburgers are soldiers. I conclude with the words uttered by Prince Bismarck on Monday in the Reichstag, which showed the rapid spectacle of the popular representation going hand in hand with the Government: I adapt to Brandenburg the sentence: 'The Brandenburgers only fear God, and nothing else in this world.'"ROME, February 9th.
The *Tribuna* announces that every vessel in the navy has been ordered to be in readiness for service, and that the naval armament at Naples has been ordered to be in readiness for service. These preparations are in accordance with cipher instructions from the Government.LONDON, February 9th.
A dispatch from Rome to the *Chronicle* says: "The Government has virtually decided to withdraw from Egypt all Italian troops, except such as are absolutely necessary to hold the positions at Massowah and places in that vicinity. Men will be invited to volunteer for this service."ST. PETERSBURG, February 9th.
General Vannovski, Minister of War, has issued an order of the day in accordance with the decision of June, 1887, forming a mobilization section at artillery head-quarters.The *Grasshopper* says that a number of patriotic St. Petersburg capitalists are forming a company for the purpose of acquiring fast steamers which can be easily converted into armed cruisers.

Many arrests have been made in Southern Russia, owing to the discovery of an extensive agrarian movement.

TRABUE (Fla.), February 10th.
A single scull race took place to-day for a purse of \$1000 and the championship of America. The rowers were John Teemer of Pittsburgh, Albert Hamm of Boston and John McKay of Halifax. Teemer won in 20:04, McKay in 20:18, Hamm in 22:09.

In the Commons this evening Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, continued the debate on the address in reply to the Queen's speech, commented on the changed tone Gladstone manifested in his speech of last evening. Where, he asked, was the impassioned orator who used all the resources of rhetoric to inflame the public mind against law and against the police?

Gladstone interrupted the speaker, saying that there was not an atom of foundation for such assertions. Balfour, continuing, recited the inciting language in Gladstone's Nottingham speech, and said that he did not comprehend but rather congratulated Gladstone on his change of tone. Grave reflections had been cast on the resident magistrates in Ireland. It was true that they were dependent for appointment on the Executive Government, but out of a total of seventy-three magistrates Earl Spencer appointed or approved sixty when he revised the list. The number of persons tried under the Crimes Act was 659, of whom 329 were acquitted. In 1886 the number of agrarian offenses reached 2,195 while in 1887 the total was only 1,837. The total number of cases of ordinary crime reached 1,951 in 1886, and in 1887 was 1,663. The number of agrarian offenses for the six months ending Jan., 1888, and for the same period ending January, 1887, was 364, a decrease of 30 per cent. The number of persons being boycotted at the end of July, 1886, was 807, whereas now it was only 208. The Government's efforts to protect persons from boycotts had been notably successful in counties Clare and Kerry where the League had been suppressed. People were travelling in Ireland with more confidence and the judges confirmed this opinion. The Government was engaged in its old struggle, but never before had any Government arrayed against it the forces recognized by the opposition. He claimed that the figures adduced justified coercion and proved that the Government's policy had been successful. [Cheers.]

John Morley said that the House would infer from Balfour's speech what the temper was in the administration. The Coercion Act, regarding the Irish criminal statistics, he said the records showing a decrease of crime included six months' calm during which evictions notices could not be executed. The diminution of boycotting was due, not to coercion, but to the entirely changed state of feeling and a deeper sense of responsibility toward the Liberal members who were co-workers with the Irish to obtain justice for Ireland. "Cries of 'Hear! hear!'" The Irish party was now assured that it would ultimately realize its aspirations. If it should ever be deprived of that hope the effects

of coercion in agitating social disorders would become painfully apparent.

Harrington (Nationalist) called Balfour's speech "a choice example of his mediocrity." The speaker called upon Harrington to withdraw the expression.

Harrington acquiesced, but said he did so only under command.

Harrington continued and said: "Everybody conversant with the affairs of Ireland knows that the magistrates administer the Crimes Act, and do all they can to irritate the people. Balfour's regime oppressed the people. He tried to suppress those indicating the people's rights, but the principles of liberty will be fought for until they triumph."

Parnell moved an adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

The text of Parnell's amendment to the address is as follows: "We humbly represent to her Majesty that only the remedial portion of the last session of the Irish legislation has tended to lessen crime, whereas repressive legislation has done much to alienate the sympathy and respect of her Irish subjects, and that the administration of the Crimes Act, as well as much of the general action of the Executive, has been harsh and partial." The amendment will receive the full support of the front opposition benches.

John L. Sullivan has accepted the offer of Jack Knifton to stand before him for six rounds for £200.

Great excitement has been caused in military circles by the arrest of Major Templar of Chatham, under an order from the Inspector-General of Fortifications, upon a charge of divulging official secrets.

John Bright has written to the editor of the *Manchester Guardian* in answer to the late issue, in favor of international arbitration. Bright says that "he observes with surprise and sorrow that Italy is treading in the steps of other Powers in the establishing of enormous armaments."VIENNA, February 10th.
The Lower House of the Reichstag to-day passed the bill to prolong the treaty of commerce with Germany. The measure was adopted by a large majority.

The Lower House also approved an international convention for the protection of cables. Enormous avalanches along the line of the Alberg Railway have resulted in serious loss of life.

CAIRO, February 10th.
Severe fighting is reported at Kassala between derwishes and Abyssinians.ST. PETERSBURG, February 10th.
The Odessa University has been opened. The university at Kazan is now the only one in Russia that remains closed.VIENNA, February 10th.
The War Office is making contracts for the immediate delivery of a large quantity of provisions. Krupp has received orders for 150 heavy siege guns, to cost 3,500,000 florins. The guns ordered by Turkey and not paid for will be utilized to fill the first instalment of the order.MADRID, February 11th.
In the Deputies, Premier Sagasta said the Government was satisfied with the results of its policy. Internal peace was assured. In regard to the situation abroad, the Government desired to remain neutral, while assuring respect for Spain and the colonies. The Government would continue a liberal programme. The address was agreed to by a vote of 267 to 61.LONDON, February 11th.
Vanity Fair blames the Prince of Wales for his rudeness at the Opera Comique theatre and says: "Indeed, it is scarcely remarkable that the exalted personages present should have talked loudly during the entire evening, for it is possible to assume that they found their own conversation more interesting than the edifying periods in which the long and dreary play was expressed."BERLIN, February 11th.
The Reichstag committee on the Anti-Socialist bill has reported in favor of prolonging for two years the operation of the existing law.LONDON, February 11th.
Vanity Fair, usually well informed on foreign affairs, makes to-day the alarming statement that the co-operation of England and Italy will, on the part of England, be on the sea, and according to information which we believe correct, will consist in placing Italy in a position to quell French expansion generally in North Africa.

The British war office has received an order directing that a statement be prepared at once, detailing the facilities for summoning the reserves and strengthening the battalions from depots, within forty-eight hours, in the event of mobilization of the army becoming necessary. The order is a precautionary step to enable the new mobilization scheme to work well, if it should be necessary to put it in force.

Owing to a matter now before the Government is making provision for the education of the daughters of Gladstone has proposed a select committee to decide on secondary provisions for members of the royal family.

DUBLIN, February 11th.
Pynes, arrested in London yesterday, was brought to Ireland to-day and lodged in the Waterford Jail, where he will remain until the convening of the Kilminkham sessions. Bail was refused for him.

The trial of the action of Wilfred Blunt, who was recently convicted of the violation of the Crimes Act, against the police for \$35,000 damages for libel, was commenced to-day. Blunt was present in the courtroom, wearing his prison garb under his overcoat. Lady Blunt was also present. The courtroom was crowded.

JACKSONVILLE (Fla.), February 11th.
There was a five-mile sculling race at Punta Gorda to-day. The water was very rough. Teemer took the lead at the start and held it throughout. McKay and Hamm holding well together. The second quarter was rowed against a strong wind. On the second turn Hamm's boat became waterlogged and he pulled to shore, and afterwards rowed over the course. Time, Teemer 41:46, McKay 41:50. Owing to the rough water the distance was estimated at six miles.ROME, February 11th.
The Senate to-day rejected, by a vote of 60 to 37, the bill empowering the Government to reorganize the central administration. Signor Crispien having announced that he would accept the passage of his bill as a vote of confidence, the Ministry is expected to resign.The Armenians of Constantinople, February 11th.
The Armenians of Constantinople, February 11th, declared that they would not accept the Patriarch's action has pleased the Porte, who has ordered the reopening of the Armenian Church.TANGIER, February 11th.
The Sultan has consented to allow for six months a coasting trade in wheat and barley. Trade may begin immediately. A Spanish corvette has arrived at Tangier for the purpose of conveying the Sultan's present to the infant King of Spain and Christina, the Queen-Regent.MADRID, February 11th.
In the Chamber of Deputies to-day Castillo, Minister of the Interior, replying to Señor Romero, denied the rumors concerning Queen Isabella. He also stated that there was no truth in the rumor that the Duke de Montpensier had been requested not to enter Spain.ST. PETERSBURG, February 11th.
The Czar has ordered the formation of a commission for the remodeling of the laws respecting the imperial family, so as to authorize morganatic marriages of younger members of the family under certain conditions.BERLIN, February 11th.
While prophets of peace and war mongers are contending for various interpretations of Bismarck's speech, I shall endeavor to picture the scene in the Reichstag, on what the *Cologne Gazette* pronounces the most memorable day of modern German history. By midday the streets leading from the Chancery to the Reichstag building were thronged. All Berlin turned out to welcome the Iron Chancellor and give the stamp of popular approval to the elect he was about to pronounce. Berlin at least was willing, and he to give the 700,000 men demanded for the better defense of the Fatherland, and the \$70,000,000 to meet the estimated deficit in the military budget. Young girls showered blossoms as he passed. The adamantine countenance of the man of iron wore a smile. Though erect and soldierly, in a cuirassier tunic with a yellow collar, he looked pale and wan. He seemed fully aware of the weight of all Europe would place upon his words, and at first his care in their choice made his speech slow. Behind his chair was a table laden with Seltzer bottles and white Rhine wine. His son Graf Herbert

here officiated.

The bill having been read, Bismarck arose and for a moment his glance swept around the house. Behind him sat Von Moltke with folded arms and eyes closed. Around clustered Windhorst, Richter, Benckson and others who had so strongly opposed him on the Septennate bill. One hundred and twenty skilled photographers with specially sharpened pencils were in the press stands of the Reichstag. The Reichstag building was thronged. All Berlin turned out to welcome the Iron Chancellor and give the stamp of popular approval to the elect he was about to pronounce. Berlin at least was willing, and he to give the 700,000 men demanded for the better defense of the Fatherland, and the \$70,000,000 to meet the estimated deficit in the military budget. Young girls showered blossoms as he passed. The adamantine countenance of the man of iron wore a smile. Though erect and soldierly, in a cuirassier tunic with a yellow collar, he looked pale and wan. He seemed fully aware of the weight of all Europe would place upon his words, and at first his care in their choice made his speech slow. Behind his chair was a table laden with Seltzer bottles and white Rhine wine. His son Graf Herbert

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